

By: Turner of Tarrant

H.B. No. 449

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to authorizing the issuance of revenue bonds to fund
3 capital projects at certain public institutions of higher
4 education.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 55, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Sections 55.1791, 55.1792, 55.1793, 55.1794,
8 55.1795, 55.1796, 55.1797, 55.1798, 55.1799, 55.17991, and
9 55.17992 to read as follows:

10 Sec. 55.1791. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
11 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
12 subchapter, the board of regents of The Texas A&M University System
13 may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or
14 equip property and facilities, including roads and related
15 infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the issuance of
16 bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in accordance with a
17 systemwide revenue financing program adopted by the board for the
18 following institutions, not to exceed the following aggregate
19 principal amounts for the projects specified, as follows:

20 (1) Prairie View A&M University, \$60 million for
21 construction of an engineering classroom and research building;

22 (2) Tarleton State University, \$72 million for
23 construction of an agricultural and natural resources building;

24 (3) Texas A&M University:

1 (A) \$65 million for construction of an
2 instructional laboratory and innovative learning facility; and

3 (B) \$30 million for construction of a research
4 facility and nursing instruction center at the Higher Education
5 Center in McAllen, Texas;

6 (4) Texas A&M University--Central Texas, \$25 million
7 for construction of a central utility plant;

8 (5) Texas A&M University--Commerce, \$49.5 million for
9 construction of an agriculture multipurpose education and training
10 center;

11 (6) Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi, \$58.5
12 million for construction of an arts and media building;

13 (7) Texas A&M University at Galveston, \$40 million for
14 construction of an immersive scholarship and learning environment
15 building, a central plant, and campus infrastructure;

16 (8) Texas A&M International University, \$60 million
17 for construction of a student classroom and events center;

18 (9) Texas A&M University--Kingsville, \$60 million for
19 construction of a STEM and health professions workforce development
20 complex;

21 (10) Texas A&M University--San Antonio, \$53 million
22 for construction of an academic and library building;

23 (11) Texas A&M University--Texarkana, \$46 million for
24 construction of a business, engineering, and technology building;

25 (12) West Texas A&M University:

26 (A) \$28.5 million for capital improvements to
27 address life and fire safety issues; and

1 (B) \$20 million for renovation of the education
2 building; and

3 (13) The Texas A&M University System Health Science
4 Center, \$100 million for a joint project with The University of
5 Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center and The University of Texas
6 Health Science Center at Houston for construction of a biomedical
7 research facility.

8 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
9 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
10 an institution, branch, or entity of The Texas A&M University
11 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
12 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
13 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
14 bonds, are outstanding.

15 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
16 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
17 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of The Texas A&M
18 University System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
19 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
20 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

21 Sec. 55.1792. THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
22 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
23 subchapter, the board of regents of The University of Texas System
24 may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or
25 equip property and facilities, including roads and related
26 infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the issuance of
27 bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in accordance with a

1 systemwide revenue financing program adopted by the board for the
2 following institutions, not to exceed the following aggregate
3 principal amounts for the projects specified, as follows:

4 (1) The University of Texas at Arlington:

5 (A) \$76 million for construction of a social work
6 and college of nursing academic building; and

7 (B) \$59 million for rehabilitation and
8 renovation of the life sciences building;

9 (2) The University of Texas at Austin, \$135 million
10 for restoration of the J. T. Patterson Labs building;

11 (3) The University of Texas at Dallas:

12 (A) \$60 million for a joint project with The
13 University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas for
14 construction of a translational biomedical engineering and science
15 building on The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at
16 Dallas campus; and

17 (B) \$75 million for construction of a student
18 success center on The University of Texas at Dallas campus;

19 (4) The University of Texas at El Paso, \$113 million
20 for construction of an advanced teaching and learning complex;

21 (5) The University of Texas of the Permian Basin, \$40
22 million for improvement and renovation of the Mesa building;

23 (6) The University of Texas--Rio Grande Valley, \$70
24 million for construction of a health affairs building;

25 (7) The University of Texas at San Antonio,
26 \$126,250,000 for construction of a college of business building at
27 the downtown campus;

1 (8) The University of Texas at Tyler, \$50 million for
2 construction of a college of nursing and health science building;

3 (9) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
4 Houston, \$100 million for a joint project with The Texas A&M
5 University System Health Science Center and The University of Texas
6 M. D. Anderson Cancer Center for construction of a biomedical
7 research facility;

8 (10) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
9 San Antonio, \$82 million for construction of the Glenn Biggs
10 Institute for Alzheimer's & Neurodegenerative Diseases building;

11 (11) The University of Texas Health Science Center at
12 Tyler, \$18,521,432 for improvement and renovation of a biomedical
13 research building;

14 (12) The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer
15 Center, \$100 million for a joint project with The Texas A&M
16 University System Health Science Center and The University of Texas
17 Health Science Center at Houston for construction of a biomedical
18 research facility;

19 (13) The University of Texas Medical Branch at
20 Galveston, \$120 million for construction of an education and
21 clinical multiuse building; and

22 (14) The University of Texas Southwestern Medical
23 Center at Dallas:

24 (A) \$60 million for a joint project with The
25 University of Texas at Dallas for construction of a translational
26 biomedical engineering and science building on The University of
27 Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas campus; and

1 (B) \$60 million for construction of the Peter
2 O'Donnell Jr. Brain Institute research facility.

3 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
4 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
5 an institution, branch, or entity of The University of Texas
6 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
7 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
8 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
9 bonds, are outstanding.

10 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
11 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
12 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of The University
13 of Texas System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
14 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
15 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

16 Sec. 55.1793. UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
17 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
18 subchapter, the board of regents of the University of Houston
19 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
20 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
21 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
22 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
23 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
24 the board for the following entity and institutions, not to exceed
25 the following aggregate principal amounts for the projects
26 specified, as follows:

27 (1) the University of Houston System, \$50 million for

1 construction of an academic, administration, and student services
2 building on the Katy, Texas, campus;

3 (2) the University of Houston:

4 (A) \$50 million for construction of a law center
5 building; and

6 (B) \$35 million for construction of the Hobby
7 School for Public Affairs building;

8 (3) the University of Houston--Clear Lake, \$56 million
9 for Phase II of the STEM and classroom building construction;

10 (4) the University of Houston--Downtown:

11 (A) \$85 million for construction of an arts,
12 sciences, engineering, entrepreneurship, collaboration retention,
13 and academic engagement facility; and

14 (B) \$15 million for repurposing the Student Life
15 Center as a student union building; and

16 (5) the University of Houston--Victoria, \$60 million
17 for campus expansion.

18 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
19 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
20 an institution, branch, or entity of the University of Houston
21 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
22 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
23 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
24 bonds, are outstanding.

25 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
26 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
27 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of the University

1 of Houston System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
2 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
3 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

4 Sec. 55.1794. TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
5 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
6 subchapter, the board of regents of the Texas State University
7 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
8 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
9 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
10 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
11 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
12 the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the
13 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
14 as follows:

15 (1) Lamar University, \$45 million for construction of
16 a digital learning center;

17 (2) Lamar State College--Orange, \$32 million for
18 construction of an academic building;

19 (3) Lamar State College--Port Arthur:

20 (A) \$20 million for construction of an allied
21 health building; and

22 (B) \$1,012,500 for construction of a workforce
23 training center;

24 (4) Lamar Institute of Technology:

25 (A) \$20 million for construction of a workforce
26 training center; and

27 (B) \$1,100,000 for construction of a

1 professional truck driving academy building;

2 (5) Sam Houston State University, \$70 million for
3 construction of an allied health building;

4 (6) Sul Ross State University, \$25.5 million for
5 expansion of the fine arts facility;

6 (7) Sul Ross State University Rio Grande College, \$20
7 million for construction of an education center located in Eagle
8 Pass, Texas; and

9 (8) Texas State University:

10 (A) \$90 million for construction of a STEM
11 classroom building located in San Marcos, Texas; and

12 (B) \$45 million for construction of a health
13 professions building located in Round Rock, Texas.

14 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
15 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
16 an institution, branch, or entity of the Texas State University
17 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
18 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
19 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
20 bonds, are outstanding.

21 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
22 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
23 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of the Texas State
24 University System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
25 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
26 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

27 Sec. 55.1795. UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL

1 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
2 subchapter, the board of regents of the University of North Texas
3 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
4 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
5 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
6 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
7 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by
8 the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the
9 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
10 as follows:

11 (1) the University of North Texas, \$126 million for
12 construction of a science and technology research building;

13 (2) the University of North Texas at Dallas, \$80
14 million for construction of a STEM building; and

15 (3) the University of North Texas Health Science
16 Center at Fort Worth, \$115.5 million for construction of an
17 academic building.

18 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
19 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
20 an institution, branch, or entity of the University of North Texas
21 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
22 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
23 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
24 bonds, are outstanding.

25 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
26 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
27 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of the University

1 of North Texas System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
2 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
3 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

4 Sec. 55.1796. TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY; ADDITIONAL BONDS.

5 (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter,
6 the board of regents of Texas Woman's University may acquire,
7 purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip property
8 and facilities, including roads and related infrastructure, for a
9 health sciences center, to be financed through the issuance of
10 bonds in accordance with this subchapter, not to exceed the
11 aggregate principal amount of \$100 million.

12 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
13 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
14 Texas Woman's University, including student tuition charges. The
15 amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not be reduced or
16 abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds
17 issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

18 Sec. 55.1797. MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY; ADDITIONAL
19 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
20 subchapter, the board of regents of Midwestern State University may
21 acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip
22 property and facilities, including roads and related
23 infrastructure, for infrastructure upgrades, to be financed
24 through the issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter,
25 not to exceed the aggregate principal amount of \$10 million.

26 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
27 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of

1 Midwestern State University, including student tuition charges.
2 The amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not be reduced
3 or abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds
4 issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

5 Sec. 55.1798. STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY;
6 ADDITIONAL BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted
7 by this subchapter, the board of regents of Stephen F. Austin State
8 University may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
9 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
10 related infrastructure, for a natural resources science and
11 innovations laboratory, to be financed through the issuance of
12 bonds in accordance with this subchapter, not to exceed the
13 aggregate principal amount of \$48 million.

14 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
15 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
16 Stephen F. Austin State University, including student tuition
17 charges. The amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not
18 be reduced or abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is
19 made, or bonds issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

20 Sec. 55.1799. TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; ADDITIONAL
21 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
22 subchapter, the board of regents of the Texas Tech University
23 System may acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate,
24 enlarge, or equip property and facilities, including roads and
25 related infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the
26 issuance of bonds in accordance with this subchapter and in
27 accordance with a systemwide revenue financing program adopted by

1 the board for the following institutions, not to exceed the
2 following aggregate principal amounts for the projects specified,
3 as follows:

4 (1) Angelo State University, \$22.5 million for
5 construction of a college of arts and humanities building;

6 (2) Texas Tech University, \$118,080,000 for
7 construction of a science and engineering complex;

8 (3) Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center:

9 (A) \$34,650,000 for expansion of the academic and
10 clinic building located in Amarillo, Texas; and

11 (B) \$55 million for expansion of the Texas Tech
12 University Health Sciences building in Midland, Texas; and

13 (4) Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El
14 Paso, \$92,349,000 for construction of a dental school building.

15 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
16 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
17 an institution, branch, or entity of the Texas Tech University
18 System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a pledge
19 made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated while the
20 bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to refund those
21 bonds, are outstanding.

22 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
23 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
24 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of the Texas Tech
25 University System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
26 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
27 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

1 Sec. 55.17991. TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY; ADDITIONAL
2 BONDS. (a) In addition to the other authority granted by this
3 subchapter, the board of regents of Texas Southern University may
4 acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip
5 property and facilities, including roads and related
6 infrastructure, for deferred maintenance for campus facilities, to
7 be financed through the issuance of bonds in accordance with this
8 subchapter, not to exceed the aggregate principal amount of \$50
9 million.

10 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
11 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
12 Texas Southern University, including student tuition charges. The
13 amount of a pledge made under this subsection may not be reduced or
14 abrogated while the bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds
15 issued to refund those bonds, are outstanding.

16 Sec. 55.17992. TEXAS STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM. (a)
17 In addition to the other authority granted by this subchapter, the
18 board of regents of the Texas State Technical College System may
19 acquire, purchase, construct, improve, renovate, enlarge, or equip
20 property and facilities, including roads and related
21 infrastructure, for projects to be financed through the issuance of
22 bonds in accordance with this subchapter for the following entity
23 and institutions, not to exceed the following aggregate principal
24 amounts for the projects specified, as follows:

25 (1) Texas State Technical College System, \$16.5
26 million for Phase II of the industrial technology center located in
27 Williamson County;

1 (2) Texas State Technical College--Fort Bend,
2 \$30,377,000 for Phase III of the campus construction;

3 (3) Texas State Technical College--Harlingen, \$20
4 million for construction of an industrial technology center;

5 (4) Texas State Technical College--Marshall,
6 \$8,572,000 for consolidation construction for a single campus;

7 (5) Texas State Technical College--North Texas,
8 \$10,938,000 for Phase II of the new campus construction;

9 (6) Texas State Technical College--Waco, \$20 million
10 for construction of a computer technology center; and

11 (7) Texas State Technical College--West Texas,
12 \$28,177,000 for Phase II of the Abilene campus construction.

13 (b) The board may pledge irrevocably to the payment of bonds
14 authorized by this section all or any part of the revenue funds of
15 an institution, branch, or entity of the Texas State Technical
16 College System, including student tuition charges. The amount of a
17 pledge made under this subsection may not be reduced or abrogated
18 while the bonds for which the pledge is made, or bonds issued to
19 refund those bonds, are outstanding.

20 (c) If sufficient funds are not available to the board to
21 meet its obligations under this section, the board may transfer
22 funds among institutions, branches, and entities of the Texas State
23 Technical College System to ensure the most equitable and efficient
24 allocation of available resources for each institution, branch, or
25 entity to carry out its duties and purposes.

26 SECTION 2. This Act does not affect any authority or
27 restriction regarding the activities that a public institution of

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1 higher education may conduct in connection with a facility financed
2 by bonds authorized by this Act.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.